



For Immediate Release

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**Beaverton Arts Commission Features Photographs from
“Oregon Naturally presented by Intel” at the 27th Annual
Visual Arts Showcase**

Beaverton; January 26, 2008 — The Beaverton Arts Commission will present the 27th Annual Visual Arts Showcase with a new addition to the annual art exhibition. Recognizing the beauty of our state and the artistic talent of our local, amateur photographers, this year’s Visual Arts Showcase will present a selection of works from the “Oregon Naturally presented by Intel” collection. Intel, in cooperation with JELD-WEN Communities, The Oregon Travel Information Council and KGW Newschannel 8, sponsor a digital photo competition called “Oregon Naturally presented by Intel” to feature some of the area’s best amateur photographers. The contest invites travelers to submit color photos of natural scenes in Oregon that they encounter as they explore the state. A selection of approximately 20 works will be on display at the Showcase exhibition. The Visual Arts Showcase will take place February 8-21 at the Beaverton City Library, 12375 SW 5th, and is open to the public during all Library hours. There is no charge for admission.

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The photographs will be featured side-by-side with 85 professional works of art created by local artists. A panel of judges selected the 85 works for this year's Showcase from more than 600 submitted works. The Visual Arts Showcase Exhibition and Sale will include sculpture, mixed media, watercolors, oils, acrylics, photography, prints, drawings, pastels and fine craft.

Judge's for the 2009 Visual Arts Showcase include:

- *Arthur De Bow* - Exhibitions Director/Curator, Oregon College of Art and Craft
- *Sandy Japel* – Beet Gallery, Owner
- *Susan McKinnon* – Susan is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society, the Northwest Watercolor Society, and Watercolor West. She is a past President and Lifetime Member of the Watercolor Society of Oregon. Her current work can be found at The Rental Sales Gallery of The Portland Art Museum.
- *Laura Ross Paul* – A painter from the northwest specializing in figurative narratives set in nature. She is represented by Froelick gallery in Portland, Pacini Lubel in Seattle and Space on Spurgeon in Santa Ana. In 2007 she was awarded the prestigious Bonnie Bronson Fellowship given to artists for their artistic merit and contributions to the art community.
- *Rick Schafer* – Rick has documented the splendors of the Northwest throughout his life, first with his stepfather, Ray Atkeson, and for more than 20 years in his own unique, contemporary style. His interpretation of the common, quickly becomes the uncommon with his determination and passion for unusual atmospheric conditions and seasonal transitions.

An Opening Night Gala and Reception will kick-off the two-week exhibition and sale on Saturday, February 7, from 7:00-9:00 pm in meeting rooms A&B of the Beaverton City Library. Open to the public, the Gala will provide an opportunity for the community to meet the participating artists, as well as local community leaders, and provide a chance to vote for their favorite work. There is no admission charge. Awards will be announced at the Gala including four, \$200 first place awards and a \$500 Best of Show award. Professional Guitarist, Don Jansen, will perform throughout the evening.

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“Beaverton’s Visual Arts Showcase is one of the Commission’s signature events and we are very proud to present this year’s show to the Beaverton community,” says Kevin Hoover and Beaverton Arts Commission President. “Each Showcase is a unique collection of works, but the quality of the work is consistently high every year.”

Major sponsors of Beaverton’s 27th Annual Visual Arts Showcase and Exhibition are the City of Beaverton, Oregon Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Reser’s Fine Foods, Inc., and Standard Insurance Company.

The Beaverton Arts Commission contributes significantly to the quality of life in Beaverton by presenting artistic and cultural events, which celebrate community values and help connect residents to their artistic and cultural heritage. For more information, contact the Beaverton Arts Commission at www.beavertonarts.org or call (503) 526-2288.

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